

WASHINGTON, DC- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that a grant of \$85,000 has been awarded to the City of San Joaquin to provide technical assistance for a vocational training program which will expand and train the workforce for small businesses located in San Joaquin, California. These funds are being awarded through the United States Department of Agriculture under the Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program.

"This is great news for San Joaquin," said Costa. "Small businesses are a vital cog in our Valley's economy, and any kind of additional training that we can give our local workforce can only help our entrepreneurs."

The City of San Joaquin will hire vocational skills trainers who will develop and implement an on-the-job training program that will enroll and train at least 50 local residents in a program consisting of the following program skills: industrial maintenance mechanic/welding, security guard, child development/parenting, janitorial service, clerical/basic computer skills and truck driving. It is also anticipated that the city will partner with West Hills College, Golden Plains Unified School District, Proteus, Inc. and other related service providers to provide the training.